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'Ill Health'

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Nixon's Brother To Retire Early

Washington

President Nixon's younger brother is taking an "early retirement" next month as a vice president of the Marriott Corp., a company spokesman said yesterday.

A terse announcement, which said the company would not respond to questions, announced that F. Donald Nixon, who joined the company in 1970 as a vice president for community and industry relations, "has been in ill health in recent months. In addition Marriott Corp. has embarked on an austerity program caused by the energy crisis."

The announcement said that last January Nixon and J. W. Marriott Jr. decided Nixon would stay with the company until April 15, "at which time he will take early retirement."

Nixon, who is 59, will continue to serve until Jan. 31, 1975, as consultant to the company, the announcement said.

The younger Nixon was mentioned recently in a report by columnist Jack Anderson, who said that a California builder seeking a federal contract in 1971 made a $100,000 personal loan, to Donald Nixon.

Anderson wrote that the contractor's firm later got a subcontract for more than $4 million to build homes at 18 Air Force bases. But Anderson said the current head of the firm denied that Donald Nixon had anything to do with the contract.

Anderson said it was the second major loan Donald Nixon obtained from government contractors. He noted that in 1956 Nixon got a $205,000 loan from billionaire Howard Hughes, then involved with defense work.

The Washington Post reported in 1973 that the President ordered the Secret Service to wiretap his brother's telephone during Mr. Nixon's first term as President because he feared that Donald's financial activities might embarrass the Nixon Administration.

In November, 1973, President Nixon said the action was taken for security reasons — to protect his brother from people who might try to use him because of his relationship to the President.

Associated Press